

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please add the following new claims 15-20:

15. (New) A method for manufacturing and assembling hot runner systems, the method comprising the steps of:

manufacturing a plurality of manifold plates, injection nozzles, and plugs;

adding heating elements to the manifold plates;

drilling flow channels into the manifold plates;

taking orders with specifications for hot runner systems;

boring out holes for the plugs in the manifold plates at locations that correspond to the specifications of the orders;

inserting the plugs into the bored out holes of the manifold plates; and

attaching the nozzles to the manifold plates in alignment with the plugs.

16. (New) The method of claim 15 wherein the specifications comprise at least one of nozzle types, nozzle pitches, manifold shapes, manifold lengths, and manifold thickness.

17. (New) The method of claim 15 further comprising the steps of milling grooves in the manifold plates and inserting the heating elements into the grooves.

18. (New) The method of claim 15 further comprising the step of grinding the manifold plates to dimensions that correspond to the specifications of the orders.